

# THE NAUTILUS.

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## A NEW GENUS OF TROCHIDÆ.

BY WILLIAM HEALEY DALL.

In dredging between Oahu and Molokai in the Hawaiian Islands, in depths varying between 220 and 436 fathoms, sandy and rocky bottom, the U. S. Fish Commission steamer "Albatross" obtained a number of specimens of a large deep-water gastropod shell, occupied by hermit crabs and completely covered by the extended basal membrane of a large *Actinia*. It is not uncommon to find gastropod shells covered by sponges or hydroid zoophytes, commensal with a Paguroid crab, and it often happens that the zoophyte grows beyond the margin of the aperture forming a shield for the growing crab, to their mutual advantage; since the crab in such cases does not have to seek a new habitation on the ground that the old one has become too small for him, while his movements prevent the zoophyte from becoming smothered by the mud, as might happen if the crab sought another domicile and left the old one lying on the bottom. In such cases the lime of the original shell is often gradually absorbed, though the sponge or zoophyte retains more or less of the original form. In the present case, however, the original shell appears to be normally so deficient in lime as to be practically of a flexible, horny consistency and chiefly composed of a rather tough, thick layer of conchioline. In order that it may retain its shape, it is necessary to keep it in alcohol, as in the case of *Torellia* and some forms of *Velutinidæ*.

**STYLOBATES** n. g.

Shell depressed-turbinate, few whorled, feebly calcified, with a deep, funicular umbilicus bordered by a carina; surface wrinkled in harmony with the incremental lines; aperture ample, interrupted by the body whorl, the pillar lip straight, the outer lip and base continuously arcuate; the suture appressed. Animal? operculum?

*Stylobates æneus* n. sp.

Shell large, flexible, with three rapidly-enlarging whorls, which are moderately convex above, descending to a well-marked but not deep appressed suture; base convex, the margin of the umbilicus carinate, its cavity straight-sided and funicular; last whorl expanded at the aperture, which has a thin, simple margin, straight at the termination of the umbilical coil, slightly angular at the intersection of the umbilical carina, the lips above separated for a short distance on the body whorl; shell of yellowish-gray color (in alcohol) with a well-marked, brassy lustre; sculpture of small, irregular wrinkles harmonizing with the lines of growth; outer lip somewhat sinuous and gently excavated at the periphery; upper margin of the aperture advancing beyond the lower. Maximum diameter about 75, minimum 40, height 35, diameter of umbilicus about 10 mm.

Habit. station 3893 of the U. S. Fish Commission steamer "Albatross," in the Hawaiian Islands. There are occasional minute granulations on the surface which may, however, be merely individual peculiarities. The soft parts and operculum are as yet unknown.

This large and peculiar shell does not closely resemble any other deep-water form yet recorded. While its proper classification must remain unsettled until the soft parts are obtained, its general form and habit recall several of the *Trochidæ*, and bear a curious superficial resemblance to the New Zealand land shell formerly known as *Lelix* (now *Paryphanta*) *busbyi*.

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**DISTRIBUTION OF JAMAICAN SPECIES OF COLOBOSTYLUS.**

BY P. W. JARVIS.

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In this group there are thirteen clearly marked species:

Colobostylus interruptus (Lam.).	C. nuttii Pils.
C. humphreyanus (Pfr.).	C. albus (Sowerby).